

JERRY F. COSTELLO

12TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS  
www.house.gov/costello

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1312**

October 30, 2009

Honorable David Herndon  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
Southern District of Illinois  
750 Missouri Ave  
East Saint Louis, Illinois 62201

Dear Judge Herndon:

I want to thank you for inviting me to participate in the Centennial Celebration for the Melvin Price United States Courthouse in East St. Louis.

This event has historical significant on several levels. Looking back to the dedication of the Federal Building in 1909, we note that this was only five years after the World's Fair and Olympics focused the eyes of the world on our region and the East St. Louis area was developing into a major industrial and rail center. The history of this building may be best recorded through the many important decisions rendered within these walls during a century of judicial proceedings. And finally, I was proud to have sponsored the legislation naming this Courthouse in honor of former Congressman Mel Price, one of the true champions of our region, who served in the U.S. Congress for over 43 years.

Thank you again for the invitation and my best wishes to all in attendance at this historic event.

Sincerely,



Jerry F. Costello  
Member of Congress

JFC/dm